

Lincoln Conservation Commission
Lincoln Town Hall
100 Old River Road
Lincoln, RI 02865

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 5, 2011 MEETING OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

MICHAEL MARSEGLIA - CHAIRMAN
LESLIE B. ALEXANDER – SECRETARY
DORIS BRAIS
MICHAEL GRAVIER
ANNE MCGINN

MEMBERS ABSENT

ANTHONY E. PERROTTI – VICE CHAIRMAN
FRANCO ALFIERI - TREASURER

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mike Marseglia called the October 5, 2011 meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:33 PM.

II. APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Mike M. asked for the approval of the September 14, 2011 minutes. A motion made by Anne. The motion is seconded by Leslie. The motion is voted unanimous to approve.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IV. CORRESPONDENCE: None

V. WETLAND APPLICATIONS: None

VI. COMMISSION PROJECTS:

Organic Community Garden (OCG) - No report. Leslie stated that there has been no response from the organizers of the OCG.

Butterfly Garden (BFG) – Leslie stated that she has been looking for a decent picnic table to purchase. She also stated that she was meeting with Tranquil Water Gardens next week to discuss the bio-falls.

Rain Garden – Leslie stated that she met with Al Ranaldi regarding the plants. Leslie stated that the letter regarding the CC's intension went to the Town Administrator and to Al Ranaldi. Leslie stated that she will meet with Lincoln Gardens to order plants. Leslie stated that she spoke to Rebecca Buontempo, Dream Team for Self Esteem Program Administrator. The Dream Team will meet Leslie, at The Center, to weed and prepare the rain garden grounds on Thursday, October 20th from 2:30-4:00. Leslie stated that the CC will follow-up on Saturday, the 22nd to finish the plantings.

Shady Brook – Leslie stated that she spoke to Dave Sale regarding getting some mulch from the RI Resource Recovery. The idea of the mulch is for aesthetics and to keep the weed growth down.

Open Space – Anne stated that the brochure is ready for completion and that it would cost approximately \$240.00 for an additional 500 copies.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

Leslie stated that she spoke to Al Ranaldi about the Adopt-A-Spot program. Al suggested getting Woonsocket's program, come up with a proposal for Lincoln and present it to the Town Council. He suggested areas like the highland islands. He was concerned about who would maintain the list of properties that are maintained.

Leslie stated that she has received no word from the RIDEM Compliance and Inspection Division, regarding the salt pile at Automotive Services on Smithfield Avenue.

Mike M. stated that the CC needs to concentrate on new projects. For example, working with the community for labor and cleanup on properties around town, the Adopt-a-Spot program which needs a list of potential properties compiled, and education. Education would involve using the new Open Space brochure to educate the public on the importance of purchasing and utilizing Open Space property.

Mike M. suggested getting involved with next year's Memorial Day Parade. Possibly promoting the Adopt-a-Spot Program.

Leslie questioned whether the library changes would involve a rain garden. Leslie will follow up.

Mike stated that a nomination committee is needed to put nomination together for the elections. He suggested Leslie, Anne and Mike G. A list is needed for the November meeting.

Doris stated her concerns about the Federal Government having too much control over the proposed Blackstone Valley National Park. Leslie stated that the CC has already agreed and sent a petition in favor of the National Park. Mike G. stated that the powers to be will stay at the local level. Leslie stated that the Friends of the Blackstone are very involved with the project and if that committee is in favor, then the change must be a good change.

Mike G. stated that he acquired a list of Hazardous Fund Sites in the state and that there are eight Super Fund Sites in Lincoln alone. Leslie questioned the cleanup status of these sites. Mike G. stated that there are some active sites.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

Anne stated that Councilman John Flynn had sent her an email regarding the proposed ordinance preserving the old stone walls in Lincoln. The ordinance is exactly like the Town of Smithfield's ordinance.

Mike G. stated that there is a seminar/workshop coming up for municipalities. The workshop involves managing and leasing of farmland. This will be Thursday, October 27th from 6-8 pm.

Mike M. stated that the CC by-laws could use improvement. Mike M. stated that he will review the by-laws of other cities and towns.

Doris asked if it was possible to have more people appointed to the CC. Mike M. stated that this would involve a change in the Town's Charter. Since the charter was just changed, another change is not expected for at least 3-4 years.

IX. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The election of officers is scheduled for November 2011.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Leslie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Anne seconded the motion. The motion is unanimous approved. The meeting adjourned 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Alexander, Secretary
Lincoln Conservation Commission